

BEESON NOT SOUTHERN BAPTIST

August 4, 2000 (David Cloud, Fundamental Baptist Information Service, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org) - In the article "Ecumenical Confusion and Deception at Graham Conference," which I published on August 1, I stated that Beeson Divinity School is Southern Baptist. I said that because it is housed on the campus of Samford University, and on the web, Samford is described as "a private Southern Baptist institution including the Howard College of Arts and Sciences, Beeson School of Divinity, Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education, Cumberland School of Law." Also, the Beeson web site states that the school follows the Baptist Faith and Message of 1963.

A teacher at Southern Theological Seminary wrote to correct my mistake. He said: "Samford is a Southern Baptist university. However, Beeson is a private non-denominational divinity school, founded and endowed by O. Beeson with the mandate that it provide evangelical educational opportunities for Baptist, Presbyterian, and other students of evangelical persuasion. The faculty are evangelical Baptists, Presbyterians, and one Anglican (Gerald Bray). The Dean, Timothy George, is of course an evangelical Southern Baptist, and one of the intellectual architects of the conservative resurgence, though not one of its more noticeable political leaders. Timothy's views on several issues are not mainstream of the conservative resurgence people, such as his support for the ECT [Evangelicals and Catholics Together] accords--both of them. In other words, Beeson is housed at Samford, but is not itself related to either the SBC or the Alabama Baptist Convention."